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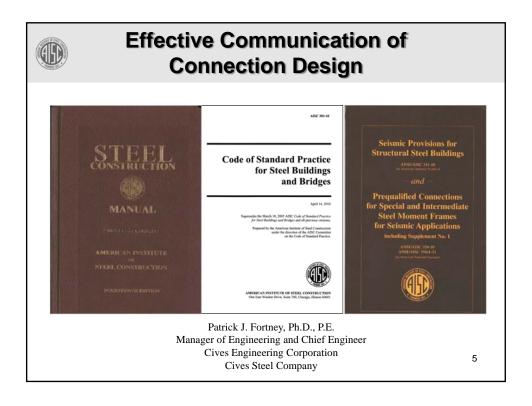
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# Effective Communication of Connection Design



Presented by Patrick J. Fortney, Ph.D., P.E., P.Eng. Cives Engineering Corporation Cives Steel Company



It is common practice in the steel construction industry for SEoRs to designate structural steel connection design to the fabricator's engineer



It is common practice in the steel construction industry for SEoRs to designate structural steel connection design to the fabricator's engineer

This type of arrangement requires effective communication between the SEoR and the fabricator

7



#### **Objective**

It is common practice in the steel construction industry for SEoRs to designate structural steel connection design to the fabricator's engineer

This type of arrangement requires effective communication between the SEoR and the fabricator

The objective of this discussion is to illuminate the type of information that needs to be communicated, and effective ways of doing so



### **Previous Practice Finally in Writing**

Although the practice of fabricators designing connections has been common for decades, AISC Code of Standard Practice (COSP) has not explicitly recognized this practice...until now

9



#### **Previous Practice Finally in Writing**

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AISC 303-10 (COSP) explicitly recognizes this practice

http://www.aisc.org/epubs



Why is communication of design criteria and expectations so critical?

11



## **Objective**

Why is communication of design criteria and expectations so critical?

When the fabricator's engineer is given any portion of design scope, this needs to be clearly indicated on the design documents.



#### Why is communication of design criteria and expectations so critical?

When the fabricator's engineer is given any portion of design scope, this needs to be clearly indicated on the design documents.

Misleading, false, omitted, and or/contradictory information leads to delays, errors, and ultimately unnecessary costs (sometimes significant).

13



#### **Objective**

#### Why is communication of design criteria and expectations so critical?

When the fabricator's engineer is given any portion of design scope, this needs to be clearly indicated on the design documents.

If the Fabricator's engineer is required to sign and seal design calculations, this needs to be clearly indicated on the design drawings



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When the fabricator is given design scope, the company's risk profile is increased; requiring the fabricator to sign and seal design documents further increases the fabricator's risk profile

15



#### **Objective**

#### Why is communication of design criteria and expectations so critical?

When the fabricator's engineer is given any portion of design scope, this needs to be clearly indicated on the design documents.

If the Fabricator's engineer is required to sign and seal design calculations, this needs to be clearly indicated on the design drawings

When the fabricator is given design scope, the company's risk profile is increased; requiring the fabricator to sign and seal design documents further increases the fabricator's risk profile

With increased risk comes increased costs; Estimators need to capture these costs



Why is the coordination of information on design documents so critical?

Contradictory, incorrect, or omitted information can lead to inaccurate estimates during the bid stage

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#### **Objective**

Why is the coordination of information on design documents so critical?

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Often times, requests for clarifications are not fully addressed prior to bid submittal



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Clarifications not fully addressed during the estimating stage have potential for change orders after award of project

19



#### **Objective**

#### Why is the coordination of information on design documents so critical?

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Comprehensive coordination of accurate information provided on the design drawings minimizes the need for clarifications...



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Comprehensive coordination of accurate information provided on the design drawings minimize the need for clarifications...

...which in turn minimizes the potential for change orders

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#### **Objective**

Why is communication of design loads so critical?



#### Why is communication of design loads so critical?

When connections are completely designed by the SEoR, any trips in the project's design rules can be easily revised in-house to resolve issues related to a particular connection design

23



#### **Objective**

#### Why is communication of design loads so critical?

When connections are completely designed by the SEoR, any trips in the project's design rules can be easily revised in-house to resolve issues related to a particular connections design

When the SEoR places connection design in the fabricator's scope, the trips encountered in the design rules become problematic for the fabricator in regard to decision making



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A connection designer stuck with impractical design rules causes unanticipated costs

25



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When connections are completely designed by the SEoR, any trips in the project's design rules can be easily revised in-house to resolve issues related to a particular connections design

When the SEoR places connection design in the fabricator's scope, the trips encountered in the design rules become problematic for the fabricator in regard to decision making

A connection designer stuck with impractical design rules causes unanticipated costs

In specific cases, impractical design rules include UDL



Why is communication of design loads so critical?

There are unanticipated costs associated with impractical design rules

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## **Objective**

Why is communication of design loads so critical?

There are unanticipated costs associated with impractical design rules

Unanticipated costs cannot be captured by an estimator at the bidding stage



#### Why is communication of design loads so critical?

There are unanticipated costs associated with impractical design rules

Unanticipated costs cannot be captured by an estimator at the bidding stage

Effective, clear, and concise communication of design rules and design loads minimize these unanticipated costs

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#### **General Topics for Discussion**

First, we'll take a look at AISC 303-10 in regard to

- 1. The SEoR's options when designating connection design
- 2. Information the COSP requires the SEoR to provide on design drawings and in project specifications (in regard to connection design)



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- 2. Information the COSP requires the SEoR to provide on design drawings and in project specifications (in regard to connection design)

Then, we'll discuss the:

- 1. The information a connection designer needs from the SEoR, and
- 2. The information the SEoR needs from the connection designer

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#### **General Topics for Discussion**

Throughout the discussion, examples of effective communication and not-so-effective communication will be presented



### **General Topics for Discussion**

Throughout the discussion, examples of effective communication and not-so-effective communication will be presented

Many of the examples are taken from "real" projects. If you recognize a figure or find yourself intimately familiar with a particular example, please recognize that discretion has been taken very seriously in the preparation of this presentation

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## Who's Designing the Connections?

The AISC *Code of Standard Practice* lists three options for the design of the connections.



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The AISC *Code of Standard Practice* lists three options for the design of the connections.

AISC 303-10 Section 3.1.2

The *owner's designated representative for design* shall indicate one of the following options for *each connection*:

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## Who's Designing the Connections?

The AISC *Code of Standard Practice* lists three options for the design of the connections.

AISC 303-10 Section 3.1.2

The *owner's designated representative for design* shall indicate one of the following options for *each connection*:

I have taken the liberty of boldly underlining *each connection*: as we proceed through the discussion, I'll refer back to this as I believe it is noteworthy to recognize this language

| <b>(B)</b>  | Who's Designing the Connections?   |  |                                    |
|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
|   |  |  |                                    |
| Option  | Description*   | Designer   | Responsibility                     |
| 1   | The complete connection design shall be shown in the structural design drawings  | SEoR   | SEoR                               |
| 2   | In the structural design drawings or specifications, the connection design shall be designated to be selected or completed by an <i>experienced steel detailer</i>           | SEoR   | SEoR                               |
| 3   | In the structural design drawings or specifications, the connection design shall be designated to be designed by a licensed professional engineer working for the fabricator | Fabricator's<br>licensed<br>professional<br>engineer | SEoR and<br>Fabricator's PE<br>??? |
| *Section 3.1.2 of AISC 303-10, Code of Standard Practice 37 |  |  |                                    |

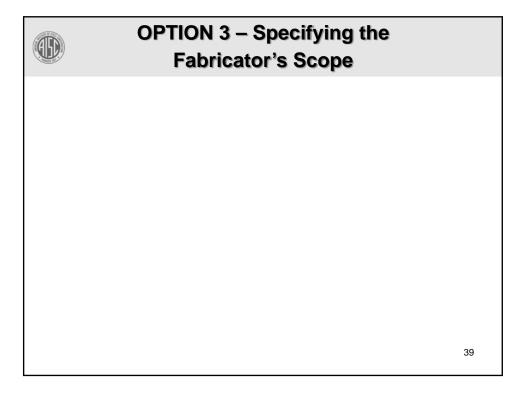


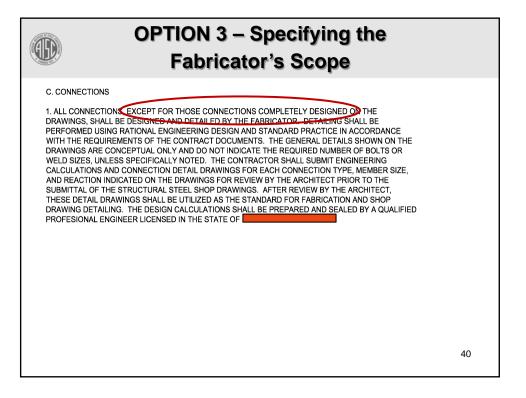
#### **OPTION 3 - The Fabricator's P.E.**

In the structural design drawings or specifications, the connection design shall be designated to be designed by a *licensed professional engineer working for the fabricator*.

There are two common forms practiced under this option.

- 1. '...connection designs are supervised by a licensed professional engineer...'
- '...connection designs are supervised by a licensed professional engineer, and all
  calculations are required to be <u>signed and sealed by licensed professional</u>
  engineer...







#### C. CONNECTIONS

1. ALL CONNECTIONS, EXCEPT FOR THOSE CONNECTIONS COMPLETELY DESIGNED ON THE DRAWINGS, SHALL BE DESIGNED AND DETAILED BY THE FABRICATOR. DETAILING SHALL BE PERFORMED USING RATIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN AND STANDARD PRACTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. THE GENERAL DETAILS SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS ARE CONCEPTUAL ONLY AND BO NOT INDICATE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF BOLTS OR WELD SIZES, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY NOTED. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT ENGINEERING CALCULATIONS AND CONNECTION DETAIL DRAWINGS FOR EACH CONNECTION TYPE, MEMBER SIZE, AND REACTION INDICATED ON THE DRAWINGS FOR REVIEW BY THE ARCHITECT PRIOR TO THE SUBMITTAL OF THE STRUCTURAL STEEL SHOP DRAWINGS. AFTER REVIEW BY THE ARCHITECT, THESE DETAIL DRAWINGS SHALL BE UTILIZED AS THE STANDARD FOR FABRICATION AND SHOP DRAWING DETAILING. THE DESIGN CALCULATIONS SHALL BE PREPARED AND SEALED BY A QUALIFIED PROFESIONAL ENGINEER LICENSED IN THE STATE OF

4



## OPTION 3 – Specifying the Fabricator's Scope

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- C. Shop Drawings: Show fabrication of structural-steel components.
  - 1. Include details of cuts, connections, splices, camber, holes, and other pertinent data.
  - Include embedment drawings.
  - Indicate welds by standard AWS symbols, distinguishing between shop and field welds, and show size, length, and type of each weld. Show backing bars that are to be removed and supplemental fillet welds where backing bars are to remain.
  - Indicate type, size, and length of bolts, distinguishing between shop and field bolts.
     Identify pretensioned and slip-critical high-strength bolted connections.
  - 5. Indicate locations and dimensions of protected zones.
  - 6. Identify demand critical welds.
  - For structural-steel connections indicated to comply with design loads, include structural
    analysis data signed and sealed by the qualified professional engineer responsible for
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    analysis data signed and sealed by the qualified professional engineer responsible for
    their preparation.

Note that this does not require signing and sealing of shop drawings...

...If you want shop drawings signed and sealed, be clear!

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# OPTION 3 – Specifying the Fabricator's Scope

(7) SUBMIT CHECKED SHOP DRAWINGS PREPARED BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER FOR APPROVAL. PRIOR TO SUBMITTAL OF DETAILED SHOP DRAWINGS, PROVIDE A SET OF JOB STANDARDS SHOWING ALL NECESSARY JOINT DETAILS. AFTER APPROVAL OF THESE STANDARDS, SUBMIT ERECTION PLANS INDICATING LOCATION OF JOINT AND MEMBER MARKINGS.



- [7] SUBMIT CHECKED SHOP DRAWINGS PREPARED BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER FOR APPROVAL. PRIOR TO SUBMITTAL OF DETAILED SHOP DRAWINGS, PROVIDE A SET OF JOB STANDARDS SHOWING ALL NECESSARY JOINT DETAILS. AFTER APPROVAL OF THESE STANDARDS, SUBMIT ERECTION PLANS INDICATING LOCATION OF JOINT AND MEMBER MARKINGS.
- SHOP AND ERECTION DRAWINGS SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEER FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. NO FABRICATION OF STEEL SHALL COMMENCE WITHOUT APPROVED SHOP DRAWINGS.

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## OPTION 3 – Specifying the Fabricator's Scope

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- SHOP AND ERECTION DRAWINGS SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEER FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. NO
  FABRICATION OF STEEL SHALL COMMENCE WITHOUT APPROVED SHOP DRAWINGS.
  - ...neither require calculations or shop drawings to be signed or sealed.



2. All connections shall be designed by and all drawings shall be prepared under supervision of a Professional Engineer licensed in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Do not submit unchecked shop drawings. First submissions of all job standards, shop drawings of connections not shown on, or that are in deviation of, the job standards, and calculations shall have one set sealed and signed by the Engineer. After final approval of all shop drawings, submit a final set sealed and signed by the Professional Engineer.

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# OPTION 3 – Specifying the Fabricator's Scope

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With this note, the SEoR has designated connection design to the fabricator...

...both design calculations and shop drawings must be signed and sealed by the fabricator's licensed engineer.



Advice when selecting Option 3:

In project specifications and with notes on design drawings

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### **OPTION 3 – Specification**

Advice when selecting Option 3:

In project specifications and with notes on design drawings

1) Clearly state that you are or are not designating the fabricator's engineer as the connection designer



### **OPTION 3 – Specification**

Advice when selecting Option 3:

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- Clearly state that you are or are not designating the fabricator's engineer as the connection designer
- 2) Clearly state whether or not you require the fabricator's engineer to sign and seal design calculations

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#### **OPTION 3 – Specification**

Advice when selecting Option 3:

In project specifications and with notes on design drawings

- Clearly state that you are or are not designating the fabricator's engineer as the connection designer
- 2) Clearly state whether or not you require the fabricator's engineer to sign and seal design calculations
  - a) Common practice is to submit sample design calculations for each type of connection. If for some reason you require calculations for every connection, clearly state this (I am in no way promoting this type of requirement)



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- Clearly state whether or not you require the fabricator's engineer to sign and seal shop drawings
- 4) Clearly identify which connections are in the fabricator's scope, and which are not



### **OPTION 3 – Sample Calculations**

Why is it important to communicate when design calculations are required for every connection?

 Providing charts with sample calculations allow the fabricator's engineer to take advantage of 303's Option 2 where the fabricator's detailer selects connections from one of a fabricator's-generated charts

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#### **OPTION 3 – Sample Calculations**

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- The volume of paperwork required to be submitted to the SEoR for review significantly increases the time required to get through the design phase which may ultimately impact shop and project schedules

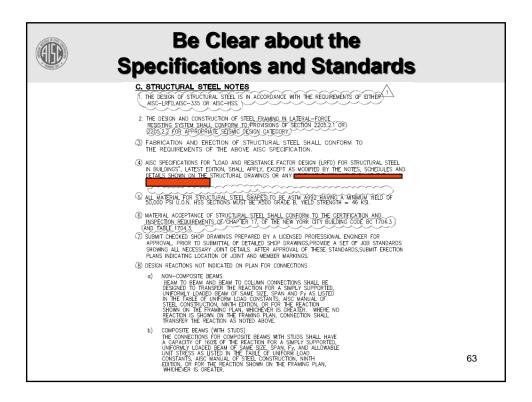


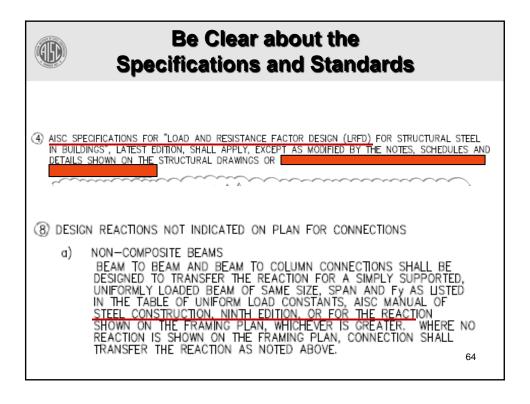
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- The fabricator's estimating department needs to accurately capture these costs









## Be Clear about the Specifications and Standards

For example, a project with no AISC 341 requirements:

Structural steel connections shall be in accordance with <u>AISC 360-05</u> following the <u>ASD</u> design methodology. All loads provided on drawings are <u>factored ASD</u> <u>loads</u>. All members labeled as **SFRS** shall be designed in accordance with <u>AISC 360-05</u>.

All bolted connections shall satisfy the requirements of <u>RCSC 2004</u>, and all welded connections shall be in accordance with **AWS D1.1-04**.

This should be consistent throughout the design documents!





### Be Clear about the Specifications and Standards

For example, a project with AISC 341 requirements:

Structural steel connections shall be in accordance with <u>AISC 360-10</u> following the <u>LRFD</u> design methodology. All loads provided on drawings are <u>factored</u> <u>LRFD loads</u>. All members labeled as **SFRS** shall be designed in accordance with <u>AISC 341-10</u>. All <u>moment connections labeled as SMF</u> shall be designed in accordance with <u>AISC 358-10</u>.

All bolted connections shall satisfy the requirements of <u>RCSC 2009</u>, and all welded connections shall be in accordance with <u>AWS D1.1-10</u> and <u>AWS D1.8-10</u>.

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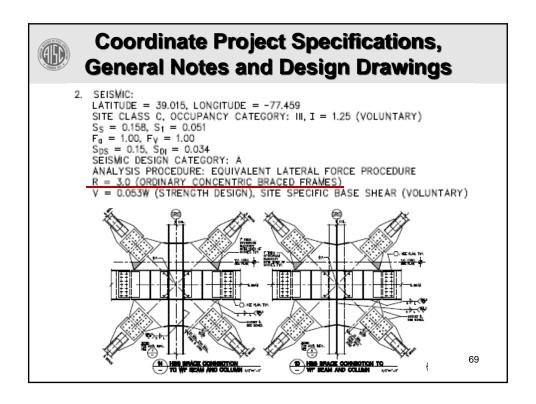
# Coordinate Project Specifications, General Notes and Design Drawings

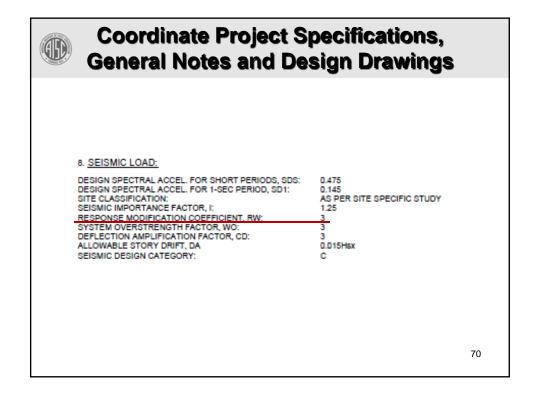
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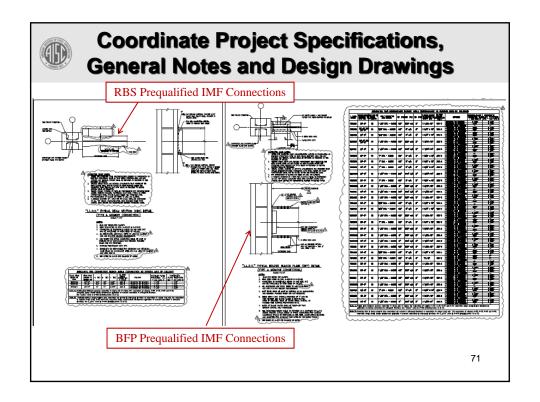


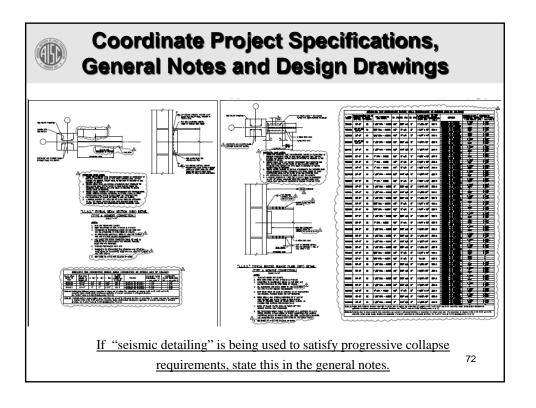
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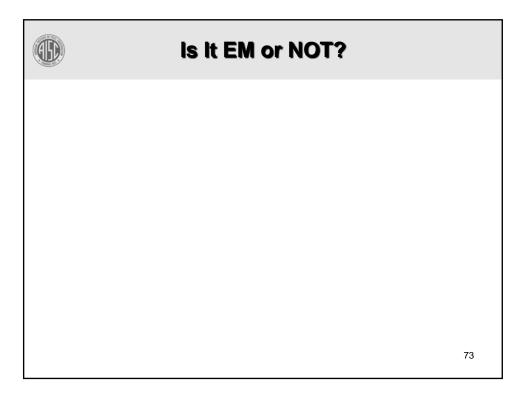
2. SEISMIC:
LATITUDE = 39.015, LONGITUDE = -77.459
SITE CLASS C, OCCUPANCY CATEGORY: III, I = 1.25 (VOLUNTARY)
S<sub>S</sub> = 0.158, S<sub>1</sub> = 0.051
F<sub>d</sub> = 1.00, F<sub>V</sub> = 1.00
S<sub>DS</sub> = 0.15, S<sub>DI</sub> = 0.034
SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY: A
ANALYSIS PROCEDURE: EQUIVALENT LATERAL FORCE PROCEDURE
R = 3.0 (ORDINARY CONCENTRIC BRACED FRAMES)
V = 0.053W (STRENGTH DESIGN), SITE SPECIFIC BASE SHEAR (VOLUNTARY)

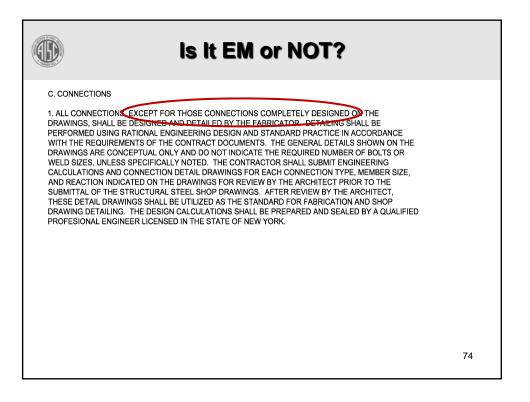














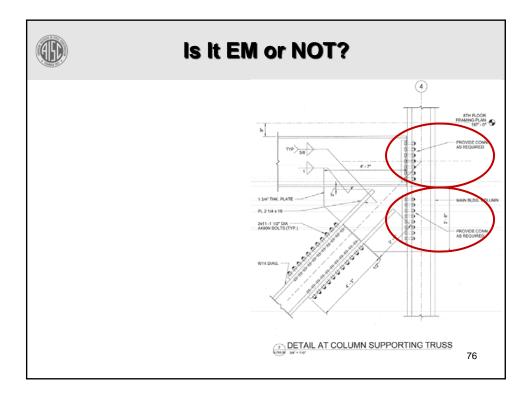
### Is It EM or NOT?

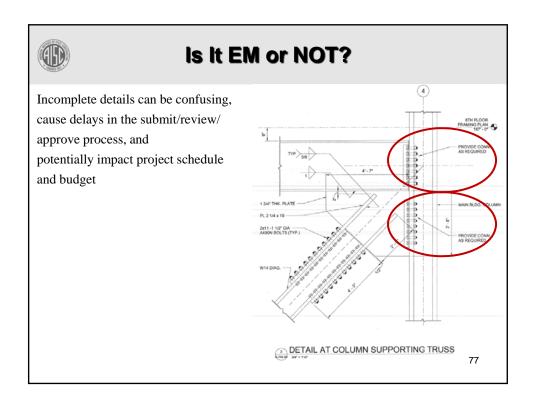
#### C. CONNECTIONS

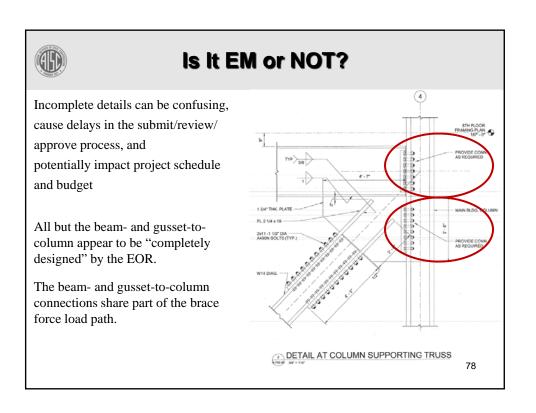
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For those connections "completely designed:"

Add a note to those details stating that this detail is "not delegated."









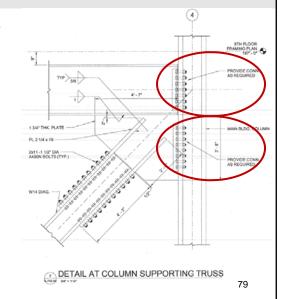
## Is It EM or NOT?

Incomplete details can be confusing, cause delays in the submit/review/ approve process, and potentially impact project schedule and budget

All but the beam- and gusset-tocolumn appear to be "completely designed" by the EOR.

The beam- and gusset-to-column connections share part of the brace force load path.

For what loads should these two locations be designed?





### Is It EM or NOT?

- 1.3 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS
  - A. Connections: Provide details of simple shear connections required by the Contract Documents to be selected or completed by structural-steel fabricator to withstand loads indicated and comply with other information and restrictions indicated.
    - Select and complete connections using AISC 360.
    - Use LRFD; data are given at factored-load level.
- SC-2 ALL CONNECTIONS, UNLESS INDICATED AS BEING FULLY DESIGNED ON THE STRUCTURAL DRAWINGS, SHALL BE DESIGNED AND DETAILED BY A LICENSED STRUCTURAL ENGINEER IN THE STATE WHERE THE PROJECT IS LOCATED. THE DESIGN AND DETAILING SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE CODES AND SPECIFICATION SECTIONS. REFERENCE SHEET S6-40 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.



### Is It EM or NOT?

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#### **NOTES**

- 1. EXCEPT WHERE SPECIFICALLY NOTED, DETAILS ON THE S6-40 TO S6-70 SERIES DRAWINGS ARE CONSIDERED COMPLETELY DESIGNED AND SHALL NOT BE MODIFIED WITHOUT SPECIFIC WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE ENGINEER. REFER TO STRUCTURAL GENERAL NOTES "SS STRUCTURAL STEEL CONNECTIONS" AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS. WHERE DETAILING, FABRICATION REQUIREMENTS, ERECTION REQUIREMENTS OR CONTRACTOR'S PREFERENCES REQUIRE MODIFICATIONS TO THESE CONNECTION DESIGNS, FABRICATOR SHALL CONSULT ENGINEER.
- 11. CONTRACTOR'S OPTION TO USE ALTERNATE SHEAR CONNECTIONS THAN THOSE SHOWN ON DETAILS 3 THROUGH 6, THIS SHEET. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE CALCULATIONS FOR ANY ALTERNATE CONNECTIONS DEVELOPING SHEAR CAPACITY NOTED IN CHART

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### Completeness

Concept details in the Design Documents are OK provided design intent and expectations are clearly communicated. This includes:

Identifying critical connection geometry constraints

Identifying the extent of connection designers' scope

Sufficiently communicating connection design forces on drawings (i.e., shears. moments, transfer forces, etc.)

Avoiding details that contain meaningless constraints that needlessly limit possible design options



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Avoiding details that contain meaningless constraints that needlessly limit possible design options

AISC Code of Standard Practice requires the following to be provided by the SEoR:

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## (III) AISC 303 COSP on Information Provided

Items taken from AISC 303-1 Section 3.1

- Size, Selection, material grade and location of all members;
- All geometry and work points;
- Floor elevations;
- Column centers and offsets;
- Camber requirements;
- Joining requirements between elements of built-up members;
- Column stiffeners/continuity plates;
- Column web doubler plates;
- Bearing stiffeners in beams and girders;
- Web reinforcement;
- Data concerning loads, including shears, moments, axial forces, and transfer forces



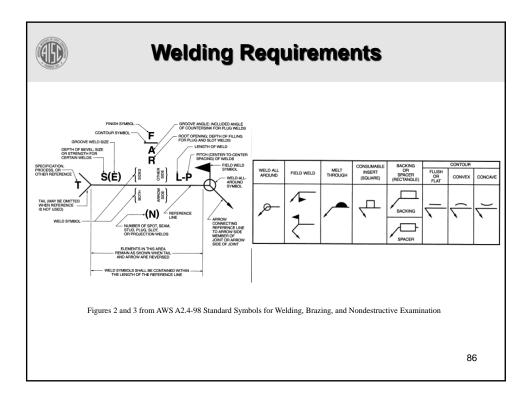
## AISC 303 COSP on Information Provided

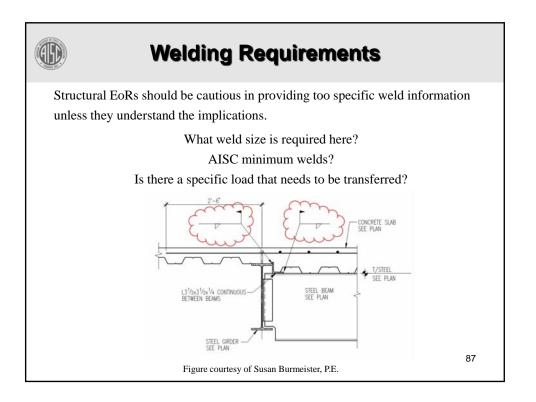
Is data provided at service load level or factored load level;

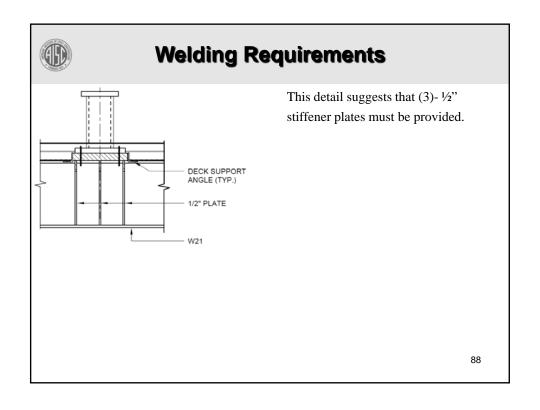
ASD or LRFD design methodology;

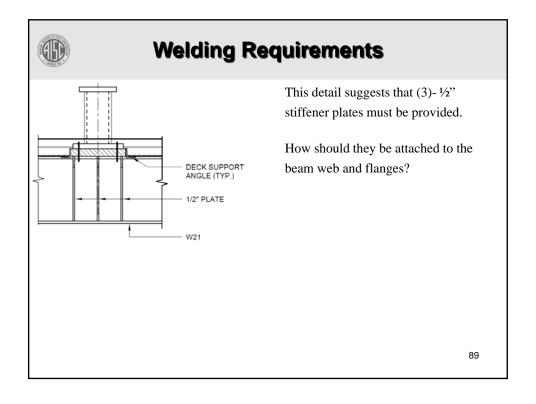
### Any restrictions on types of connections that can be used;

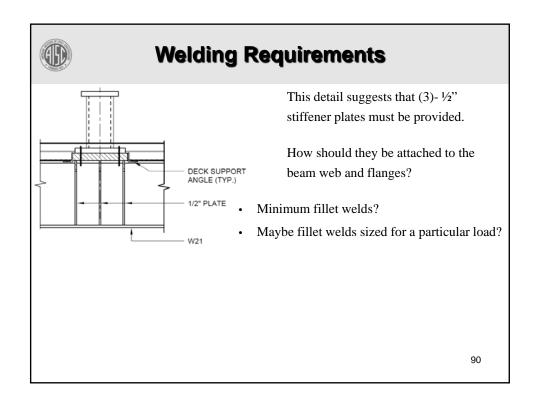
Any substantiating information to be shown on shop or erection drawings

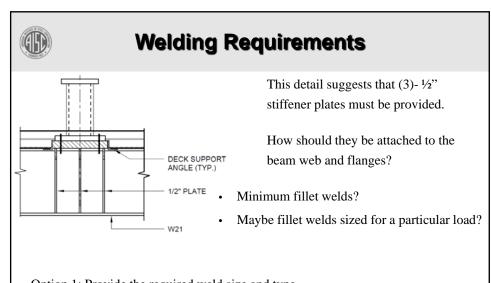






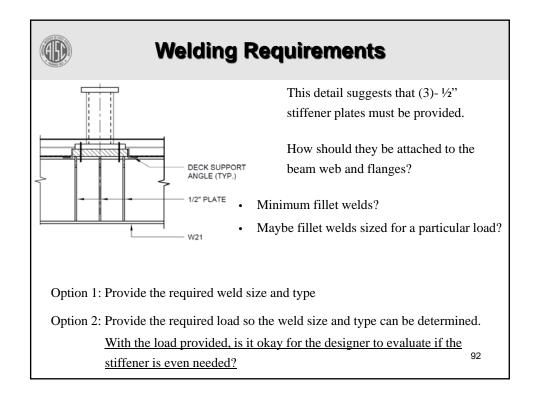


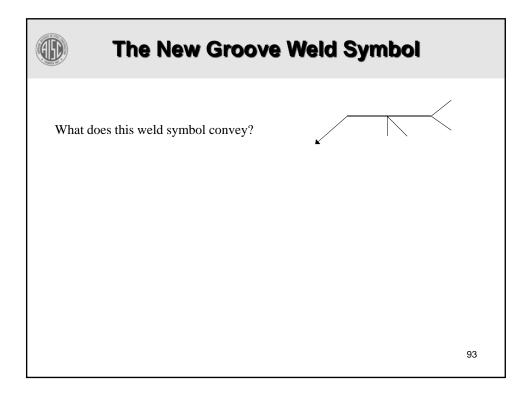


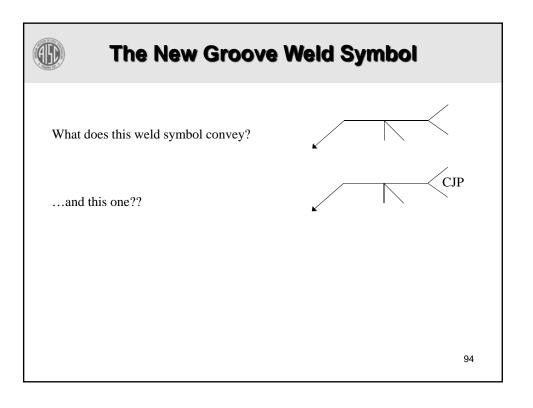


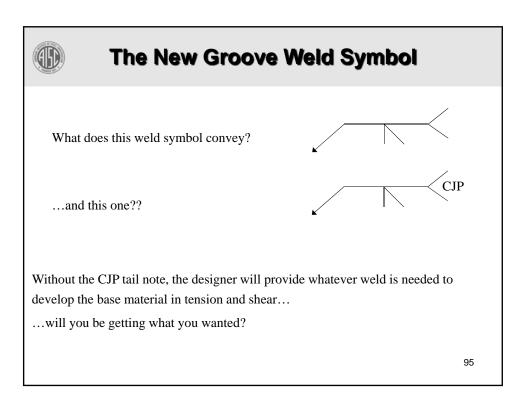
Option 1: Provide the required weld size and type

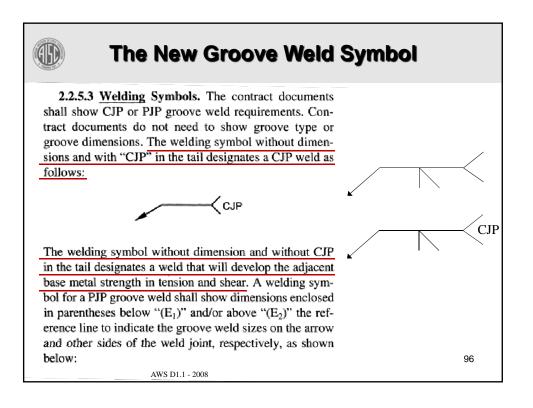
Option 2: Provide the required load so the weld size and type can be determined.





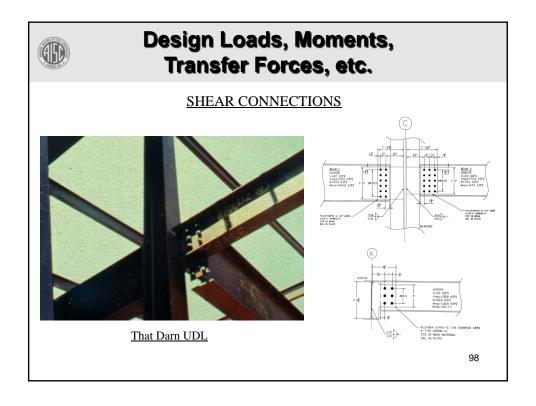


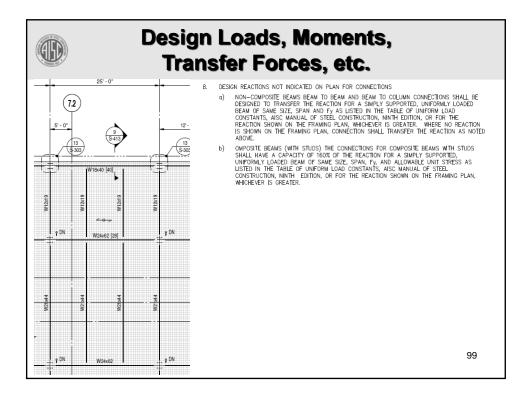






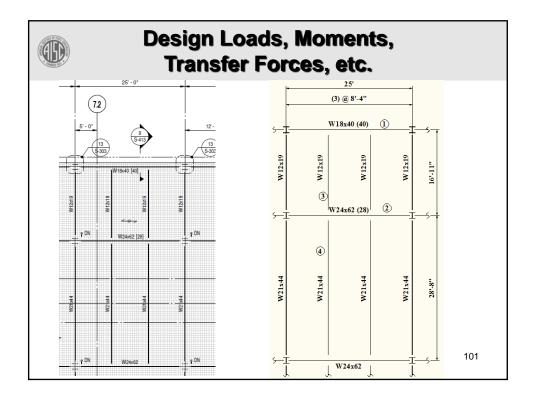
SEoR should provide all forces necessary to complete the connection design accurately and economically.

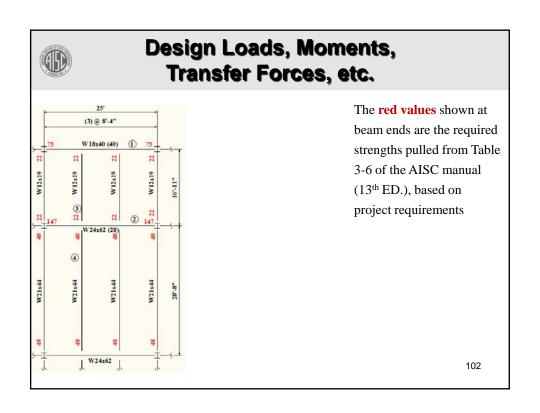


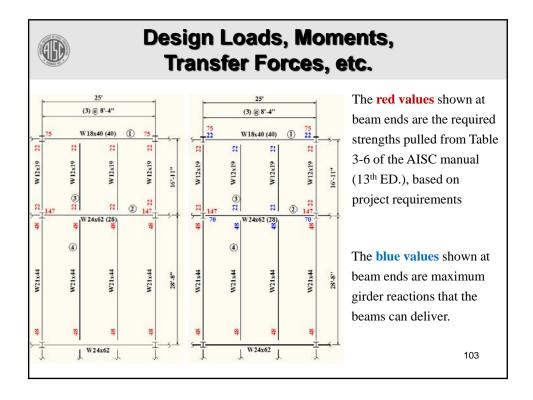


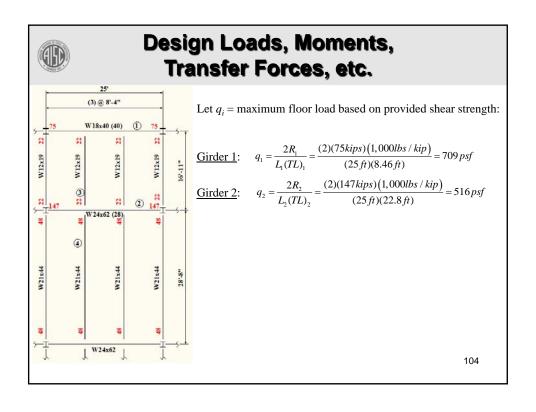


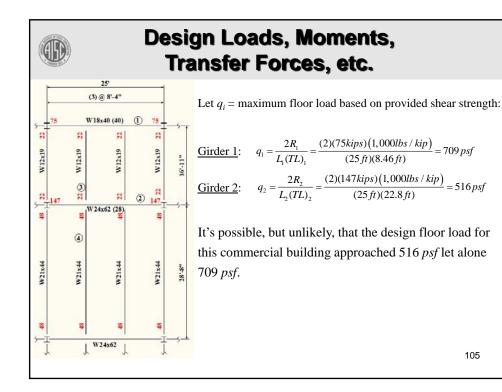
- 8. DESIGN REACTIONS NOT INDICATED ON PLAN FOR CONNECTIONS
  - a) NON-COMPOSITE BEAMS BEAM TO BEAM AND BEAM TO COLUMN CONNECTIONS SHALL BE DESIGNED TO TRANSFER THE REACTION FOR A SIMPLY SUPPORTED, UNIFORMLY LOADED BEAM OF SAME SIZE, SPAN AND FY AS LISTED IN THE TABLE OF UNIFORM LOAD CONSTANTS, AISC MANUAL OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION, NINTH EDITION, OR FOR THE REACTION SHOWN ON THE FRAMING PLAN, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. WHERE NO REACTION IS SHOWN ON THE FRAMING PLAN, CONNECTION SHALL TRANSFER THE REACTION AS NOTED ABOVE.
  - b) OMPOSITE BEAMS (WITH STUDS) THE CONNECTIONS FOR COMPOSITE BEAMS WITH STUDS SHALL HAVE A CAPACITY OF 160% OF THE REACTION FOR A SIMPLY SUPPORTED, UNIFORMLY LOADED BEAM OF SAME SIZE, SPAN, FY, AND ALLOWABLE UNIT STRESS AS LISTED IN THE TABLE OF UNIFORM LOAD CONSTANTS, AISC MANUAL OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION, NINTH EDITION, OR FOR THE REACTION SHOWN ON THE FRAMING PLAN, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.

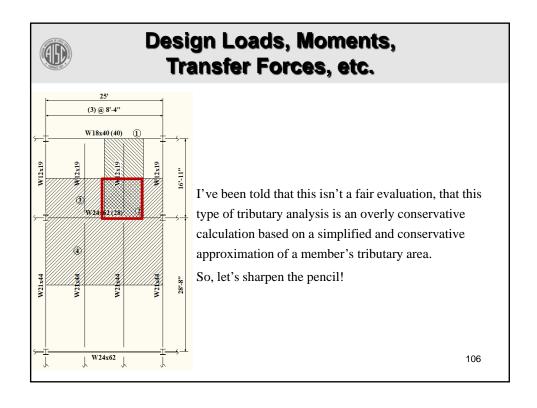


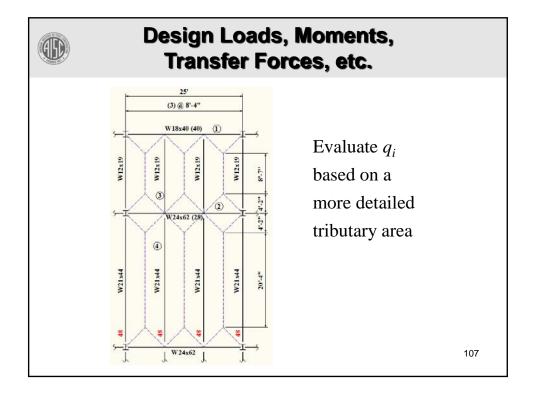


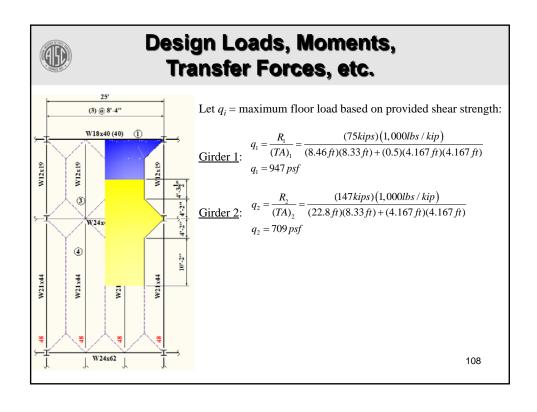


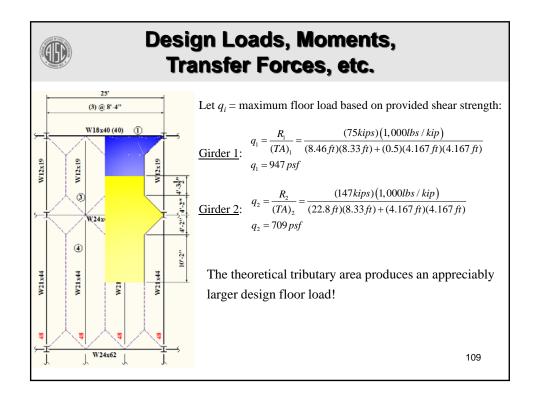


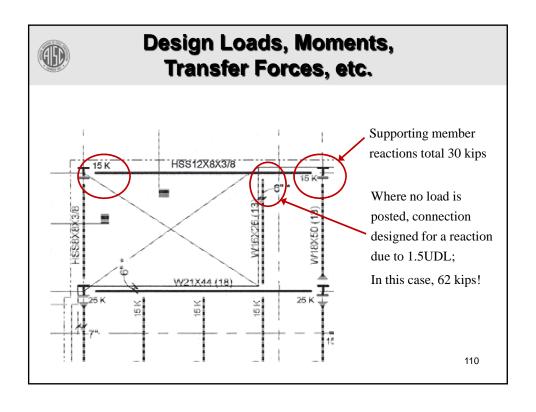


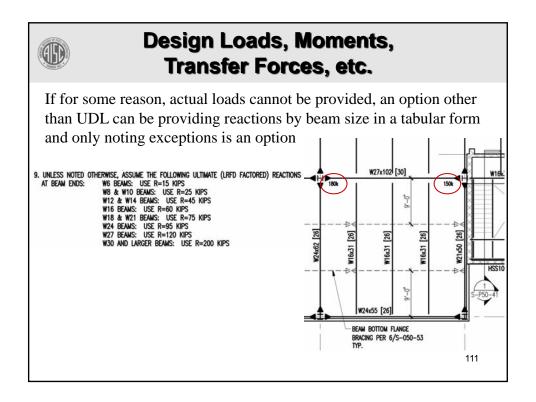


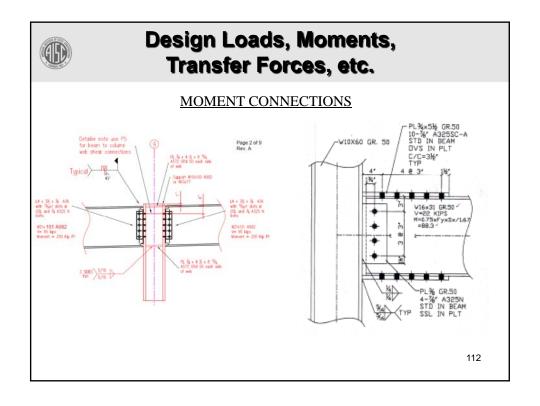














#### Web Panel Zone Shear

This section applies to double-concentrated forces applied to one or both flanges of a member at the same location.

The available strength of the web panel zone for the limit state of shear yielding shall be determined as follows:

$$\phi = 0.90 \, (LRFD) \qquad \Omega = 1.67 \, (ASD)$$

The nominal strength,  $R_n$ , shall be determined as follows:

(a) When the effect of panel-zone deformation on frame *stability* is not considered in the analysis:

(i) For 
$$P_r \leq 0.4P_c$$

$$R_{\pi} = 0.60 F_{y} d_{c} t_{w} \tag{J10-9}$$

(ii) For  $P_r > 0.4 P_c$ 

$$R_n = 0.60 F_y d_c t_w \left( 1.4 - \frac{P_r}{P_c} \right)$$
 (J10-10)

(b) When frame stability, including plastic panel-zone deformation, is considered in the analysis:

(i) For 
$$P_r \leq 0.75 P_c$$

$$R_n = 0.60 F_y d_c t_w \left( 1 + \frac{3b_{cf} t_{ef}^2}{d_b d_c t_w} \right) \tag{J10-11}$$

(ii) For 
$$P_r > 0.75 P_c$$

$$R_a = 0.60 F_y d_c t_w \left( 1 + \frac{3b_{cf} t_{cf}^2}{d_b d_c t_w} \right) \left( 1.9 - \frac{1.2 P_r}{P_c} \right)$$
 (J10-12)

(taken for AISC 360-05)

Four different equations can be used to compute panel zone strength; each with significant difference in calculated strength.

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# Design Loads, Moments, Transfer Forces, etc.

#### 6. Web Panel Zone Shear

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Four different equations can be used to compute panel zone strength; each with significant difference in calculated strength.

For a proper panel-zone evaluation, the designer needs to know if the effect on panel-zone deformation on frame stability has been considered.

Furthermore, the designer must compute the axial capacity of the column,  $P_c$ ; the term KL, needed to compute  $P_c$ , needs to be provided (potentially for each MC location)

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## Design Loads, Moments, Transfer Forces, etc.

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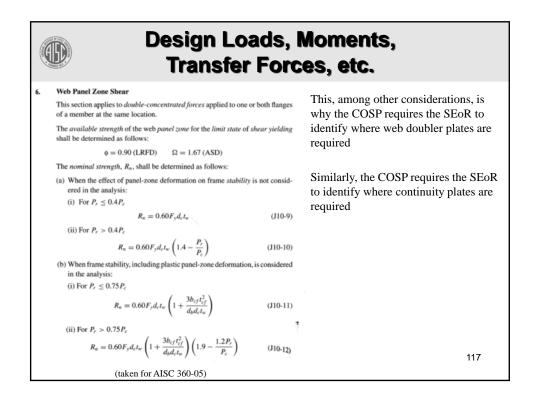
(taken for AISC 360-05)

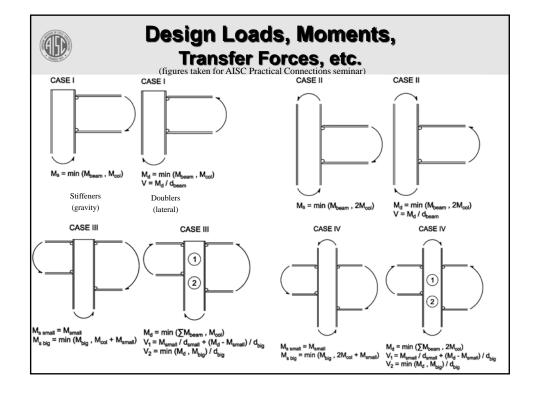
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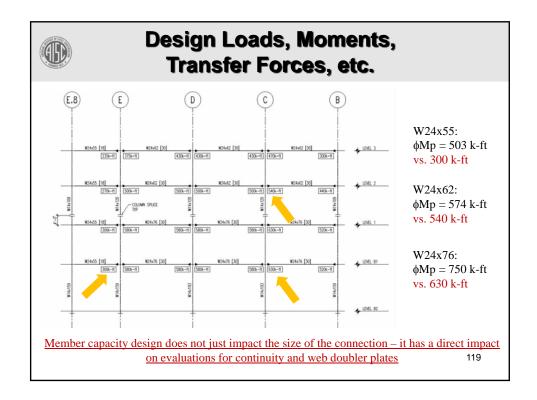
For a proper panel-zone evaluation, the designer needs to know if the effect on panel-zone deformation on frame stability has been considered.

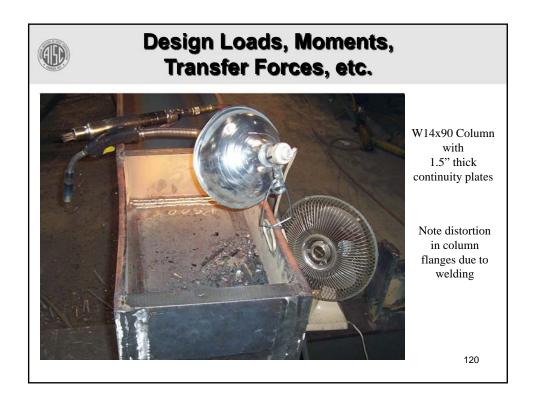
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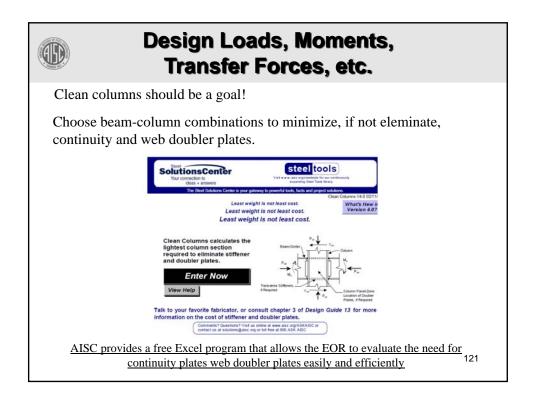
A proper evaluation takes considerable design time; time not usually available during the estimating phase

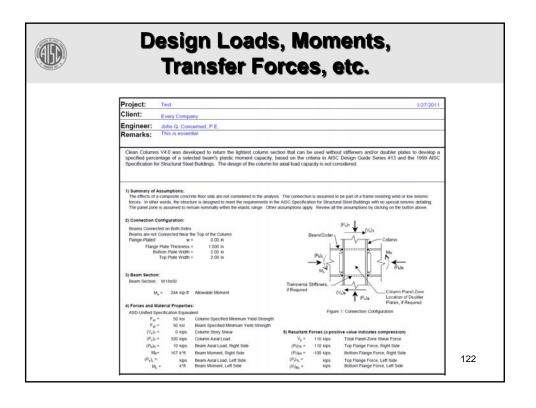












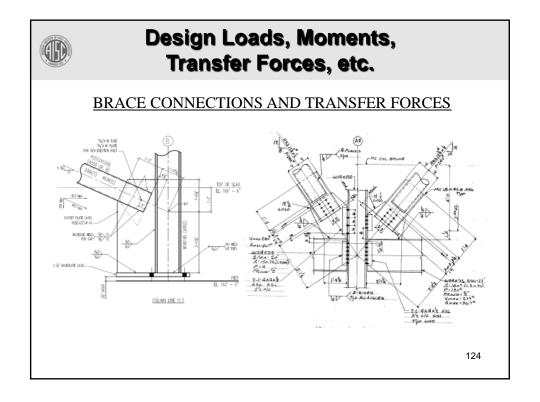


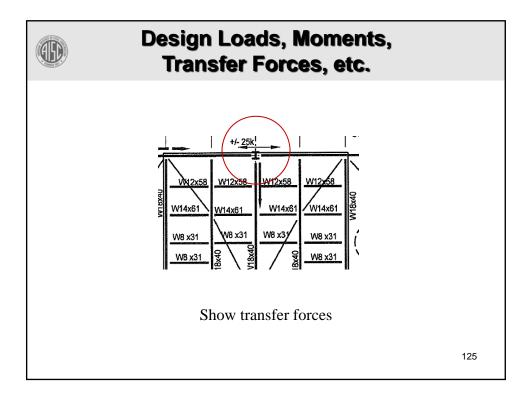
#### 6) Column Design Results:

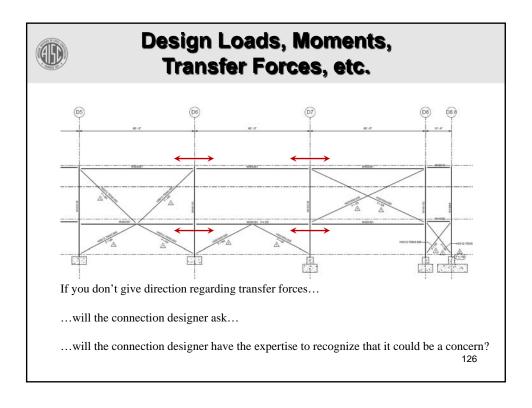
|  | Lightest<br>W10 | Lightest<br>W12 | Lightest<br>W14 | Lightest<br>W16 | Lightest<br>W18 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| No Stiffener<br>Plates Required                      | W10x68          | W12x79          | W14x74          | W16x77          | W18x71          |
| No Doubler<br>Plates Required                        | W10x88          | W12x87          | W14x82          | W16x77          | W18x65          |
| No Stiffener<br>Plates or Doubler<br>Plates Required | W10x88          | W12x87          | W14x82          | W16x77          | W18x71          |

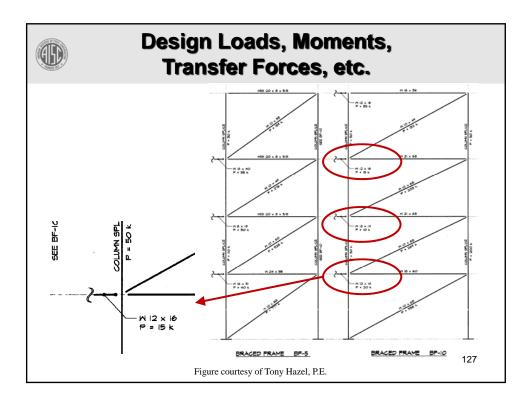
This spreadsheet has been prepared in accordance with information made available to the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., AISC Marketing, LLC, and the Steel Solutions Center, LLC at the time of its preparation. While it is believed to be accurate, it has not been prepared for conventional use as an engineering or construction document and should not be used or relied upon for any specific applicability and applicability by a licensed engineer, architect or other professional. AISC, AISCM, and SSC disclaim any liability arising from information provided by others or from the unauthorized use of the information contained in this spreadsheet.

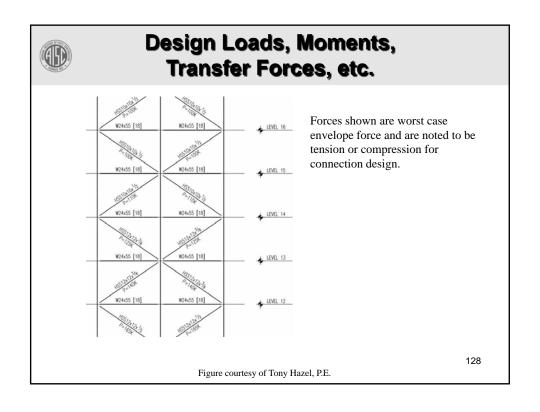
<u>Clean column is a great and essential tool for final selection size decisions for beams</u> and columns

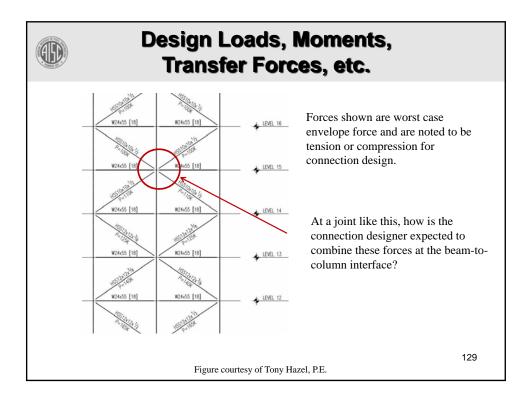














Structural Engineers, Contractors, Fabricators, and Connection Designers should seek to establish open lines of communication early in construction phase of project.



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Fabricators or connection designers that want to stray from the Design Documents should seek approval for changes to concepts from the SEoR prior to investing significant resources.

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## The Design, Submit, & Approval Process

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However, enough work needs to be done to be confident that the proposed design/detail works.

SEoRs should evaluate suggestions with an open mind.



## The Design, Submit, & Approval Process

Fabricators and connection designers should recognize that SEoRs are less likely to approve changes, regardless of the merit, if they require the SEoR to perform additional work as it is traditionally difficult for the SEoR to receive compensation for revisions.



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Design Drawings should identify any limitations on the use of standard connection concepts.

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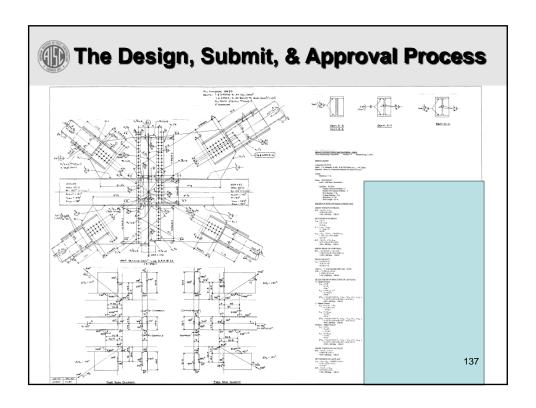


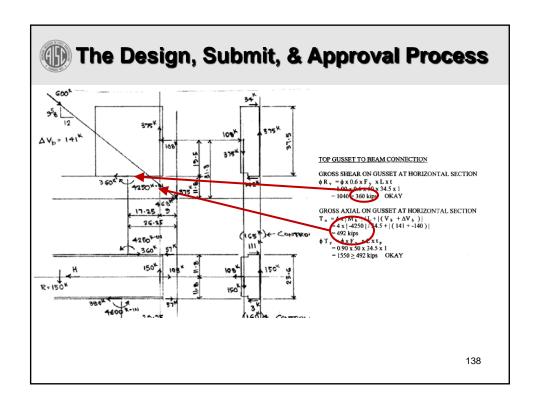
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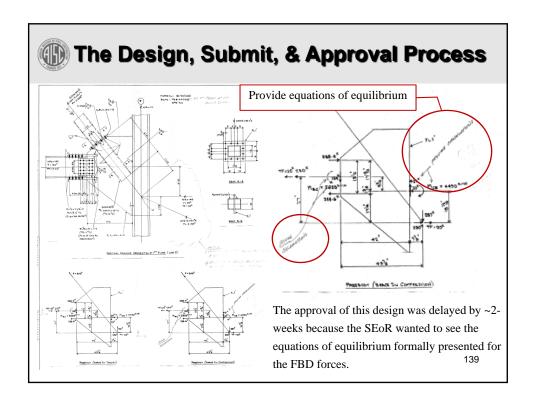
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Design Drawings should identify any limitations on the use of standard connection concepts.

Where possible, Design Drawings should provide connection designer flexibility to develop connection details consistent with fabricator's shop practices.









Submit / review / approval process **is not** the appropriate vehicle for confirming connection design decisions with the SEoR.



Make sure the RFI to the Contractor clearly describes the question. SEoRs often receive RFIs where the question asked does not reflect the question intended.

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## The Design, Submit, & Approval Process

Make sure the RFI to the Contractor clearly describes the question. SEoRs often receive RFIs where the question asked does not reflect the question intended.

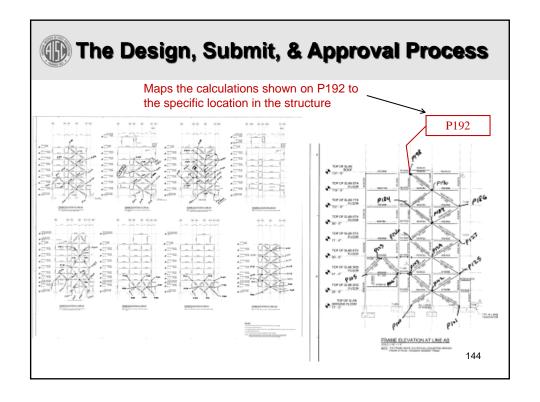
Being clear and concise in the RFI, increases the probability that the SEoR's response will be pertinent to the intended question.

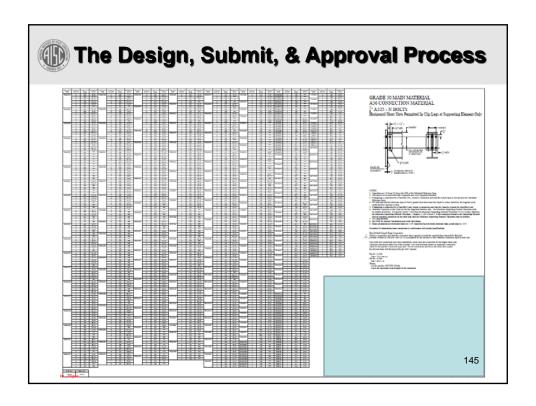


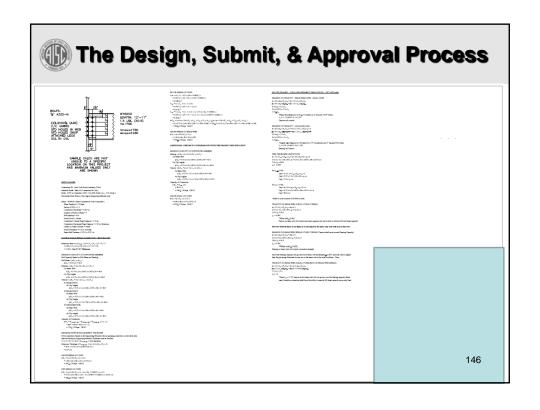
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Being clear and concise in the RFI, increases the probability that the SEoR's response will be pertinent to the intended question.

Design team is responsible for answering RFI's completely, and in a timely manner.









## It's a Team Effort, Let's Respect Each Other

#### The SEoR:

- Can not shift full responsibility of connection design to connection designer
- May have concerns or insight to detail concepts which are not readily apparent to the connection designer
- Should do enough work in establishing concepts to verify they are constructible and will work for the loads
- Should be willing to consider fabricator / connection designer suggestions
- Are the ones intimate with the global response and performance objectives
- It's their structure; no one knows more about the structure than the SEoR!

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# It's a Team Effort, Let's Respect Each Other

Fabricators and connection designers:

- Deal with steel connection designs every day
- Should be treated as a resource to SEoRs
- Can provide valuable input and suggestions on how to simplify construction and/or reduce costs
- Should not be unnecessarily restricted on connection design approaches if they share responsibility
- Should not make assumptions about connection loads beyond what is indicated in the Design Drawings



# The "Manual" and Design Guides are not the Last Word

ANSI/AISC 360-10, Specification For Structural Steel Buildings, states:

Alternative methods of analysis and design are permitted, provided such alternative methods or criteria are acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

#### The preface in the AISC Design Examples (14.0), states:

The primary objective of these design examples is to provide illustrations of the use of the 2010 AISC Specification for Structural Steel Buildings (ANSI/AISC 360-10) and the 14th Edition of the AISC Steel Construction Manual. The design examples provide coverage of all applicable limit states whether or not a particular limit state controls the design of the member or connection.

In addition to the examples which demonstrate the use of the Manual tables, design examples are provided for connection designs beyond the scope of the tables in the Manual. These design examples are intended to demonstrate an approach to the design, and are not intended to suggest that the approach presented is the only approach. The committee responsible for the development of these design examples recognizes that designers have alternate approaches that work best for them and their projects. Design approaches that differ from those presented in these examples are considered viable as long as the Specification, sound engineering, and project specific requirements are satisfied.

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#### **SUMMARY**

#### **Delegation of Connection Design**

- Clearly indicate if the fabricator's engineer is expected to design connections. If so, clearly note the following:
  - ☐ Are design calculations required to be signed and sealed,
  - ☐ Are shop drawings required to be signed and sealed, and
  - □ Clearly identify which connection details are in the fabricator's scope, and which are not.
  - ☐ For connections that are not in the fabricator's scope, ask yourself this:
    - Can this connection, as shown, be 100% completely detailed with the information provided?



#### Connection Design Criteria

- Clearly indicate which code, specifications(s), and standard(s) are to be used for connection design.
  - ☐ Identify which edition is in affect; avoid specifying "the latest edition."
  - □ Be consistent throughout the design documents.
  - ☐ Identify the design methodology to be used, ASD or LRFD; be consistent throughout the design documents.
  - ☐ If different specifications are to be used for gravity and lateral systems, clearly note the requirements for each.
    - If so, clearly identify on the design drawings the members that a part of the lateral system(s).



#### **SUMMARY**

#### Connection Design Criteria

- If certain connection types are not permitted, clearly note which types are excluded.
- If "seismic strength or detailing" is required for progressive collapse considerations, note this in the design documents.
- Clearly identify which connections are to be bearing-type, snug-tight, pretensioned, slip-critical, etc.
  - ☐ For slip-critical connections, note Class of connection. If working with the 13<sup>th</sup> ED. Note if connection is to be designed at the strength or service level.



#### Connection Design Loads

- Provide actual beam shear demands wherever possible.
  - □ UDL loads are usually unnecessarily expensive, can be unsafe in some cases, and are harmful to the steel industry in the long run.
- Where horizontal shears are present, provide the load and identify the point of application (T/member, B/member, gravity axis, etc..)
- Provide actual moment demands for rigid connections. Avoid member strength design whenever possible.
  - ☐ Provide enough information so that beam connection design, continuity plates/stiffeners, panel zones can be accurately evaluated.

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#### **SUMMARY**

#### Connection Design Loads (cont.)

- □ Note whether or not the effect of panel zone deformations on frame stability was considered.
- ☐ However, recall that the COSP requires the EOR to identify where continuity plates and doubler plates are required.
  - Note that simply stating the plates are required is not sufficient;
     plate thickness and weld requirements must be provided.
- Clearly identify the magnitudes and locations of transfer forces.
  - ☐ If transfer forces must be evaluated by the fabricator's engineer, clearly outline the method to be used to make this evaluation.



#### Stiffener Plates

- Clearly identify where stiffener plates/continuity plates are required for force transfer, web or flange stiffening, etc...
  - ☐ However, recall that the COSP requires the EOR to identify where stiffener plates are required.
    - Note that simply stating the plates are required is not sufficient;
       plate thickness and weld requirements must be provided.
  - ☐ If stiffener plate requirements must be evaluated by the fabricator's engineer, clearly note the loads to be considered.

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#### **SUMMARY**

#### Welding Requirements

- Provide complete weld symbols on details not within the fabricator's scope.
  - ☐ Where fillet weld symbols are shown without the weld size, provide a not stating that these welds symbols indicate:
    - Minimum weld sizes per AISC 360, or
    - o Provide the load for which the weld is to be sized.
- Make sure you are familiar with AWS's new CJP weld symbol.
- Where stiffener/continuity/web doubler plates are "mandated," the weld requirements for attaching the plates need also be provided.



#### Design/Submit/Review/Approve Process

- The SEoR review of design calculations and/or shop drawings is not a vehicle for RFI's.
- Design calculations must be complete and legible.
  - ☐ The connection designer should provide FBD's for connections where there are multiple admissible load distributions, and limit state demands are not readily apparent to the reviewer.
- Connection designers should provide some sort of map that links a particular calculation/drawing to the location in the structure.

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#### **SUMMARY**

#### Design/Submit/Review/Approve Process (cont.)

- Submittals should be on time as required by the agreed upon submission schedule; reviews should be done in a timely manner.
- SEoR's should keep an open mind when reviewing atypical connections.

#### **Teamwork**

- When SEoR's designate the fabricator's engineer to design connections, a design team is in place.
  - ☐ Respect each other's expertise and suggestions.



# Effective Communication of Connection Design

# OUESTIONS or Comments

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